

OUR EASTERN LETTER.

ADVOCATE BUREAU,
New York, December 21, 1892.

The eastern press is unanimous in condemning Jay Gould for dying as he lived—an absolute selfish man. I see that ex-Governor St. John tries to create a little feeling by the mention of \$5,000 given for the relief of Kansas people. Nobody need be deceived by this, for it was clearly given as an investment, and Jay Gould seldom has invested money to better advantage. To my mind, Jay Gould deserves a certain sort of credit for not truckling to any morbid religious sentiment by falsifying his own life by hypocritical gifts after he died. His son may give something to a college in New York city on the strength of a letter by his father before he died, but Jay Gould gave nothing in his will to charity. Public sympathy to rich robbers is too often shown by fulsome praise of dead men for giving away that which after death is of no use to them. We praise them too often for giving back to the people after they are dead a tithe of what they stole from them under forms of law during their lifetime.

The gift of Armour to Chicago of \$1,500,000 for a trade school is being praised extravagantly as a great act of charity. The western farmers rather gave that \$1,500,000, for Phil Armour's millions have been made only by a successful combine to rob by controlling prices for beef and pork.

How easy it is for the American people to forgive the thief because he uses wisely a small part of his plunder! God cannot be thus bribed by money, either by robbers dead or robbers living, nor will the American people always consent to this legal robbery.

The surprise of the week in New England has been the buying of the Connecticut River railroad by the Boston & Maine railroad. The directors had just voted unanimously to lease the road to the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad, and the lease was duly announced only to be followed two days later by the startling intelligence that the Boston & Maine had defeated their rivals for railroad supremacy in New England by buying up the majority of the stock. As high as \$315 per share was paid for some stock. This action only emphasizes the fact that has been evident for some time that all the New England railroads will very soon be controlled by only two corporations.

Consolidation follows competition rapidly, and these events simply hasten the onward march of the ultimate success of the nationalism outlined by Edward Bellamy. It is one consolation to think that each trust, each consolidation, only tends toward making one ultimate trust of the government in which all the dividends will go to the people in the form of reduced prices.

The cholera scare has brought about an overwhelming feeling in favor of the restriction of immigration. Thus what the needs of the laboring man failed to bring about seems likely to be accomplished by a dispensation of Providence. Once effected by legislation, how quickly will the politician be claiming on every stump the credit for the result. Let the people, however, remember and give the credit to God and not to man.

Considerable interest is manifested here in the diplomatic sparring now going on between George F. Foster, minister of finance in Canada, and John W. Foster, Harrison's secretary of state. This educational controversy is being carried on by means of authorized interviews in the public papers begun by the Canadian minister. These interviews have touched on the following subjects,

which form the basis of the controversies between our government and Canada: (a) Reciprocity of trade; (b) fishery rights; (c) canal discriminations; (d) railroad traffic. These are all important subjects, and by means of the agitation of them in the public prints, the people will become better informed as to the facts.

The railroad magnates have decided to try and have the interstate commerce law changed. The presidents of a number of the leading railroads have within a week appeared before the senate committee on interstate commerce, and asked for a change in the law that will allow the railroads to form a pool to regulate traffic, the terms of the pool to be approved by the interstate commission. If this change is made, the railroads will soon have the control of the commission, and thus thwart the will of the people. It is being shrewdly manipulated in the public prints with a view to influence public opinion in its favor. It will require united action to prevent these railroad manipulators from accomplishing their purpose.

Another deep-laid plan is being carefully brought out, and that is the continuation of the national bank by issuing 2 per cent. bonds to be used as a basis for their currency issues, and also that of state banks, which are to be allowed to start up after the tax is taken off. Financial men realize, however, that the temper of the people will compel them to go slow in carrying out their schemes to perpetuate their power. The people must not relax their efforts to break down the monopoly that controls the finance of the nation. Eternal vigilance alone will secure freedom from this powerful control. The prejudices of eastern people in favor of the present financial system can only be overcome by education, since most people accept their idea of financial management only from bankers, whose action and advice is based on selfishness, and not the public good. The People's party must keep up the warfare until the eyes of the blinded but honest people of the east are opened, and they join their brothers of the west in the warfare for equality and justice.

The undercurrents of influence to control the next United States senate flow on steadily, and will be felt in the legislatures of every western state where the vote is close. Look out for our forces, and stand fast for independent political action.

The fifty-third congress will be probably convened in September or October, 1893, rather than in March. The gigantic task before them is already being dreaded by democratic politicians, who realize the danger of division and the loss of political power thereby.

Senator Ingalls this week had in Philadelphia a taste of newspaper misrepresentation. Long interviews which never took place were reported in two papers, in which opinions regarding public matters were put into his mouth which he had to deny in a letter to one of the papers. He can now sympathize with the Populists if never before.

The state militia of Pennsylvania are to be rewarded for their services by new uniforms, in which they expect to appear resplendent at the Chicago exposition.

In almost every paper I take up, I find short editorials condemning the Populists in Kansas for an armed band which it is reported has been organized to demand their political rights. No apology appears in any of these same papers for the attempt to steal from these same Populists the fruits of the victory they have won at the polls. Let justice be done, though the heavens fall.

GEORGE M. STEARNS.

The Kansas Reform Press Association.

The Kansas Reform Press Association met in annual session in the city of Topeka, on Tuesday, December 20, 1892, at 10 o'clock. At the morning session the following committees were appointed:

Committee on membership—I. W. Pack, B. E. Kies, Chas. S. Davis.

Committee on resolutions—W. S. Wait, B. E. Kies, S. McLallin, Frank Honeywell, Geo. H. Townsend.

Committee on order of business—W. L. Brown, J. H. Stewart, D. P. Hodgeman.

W. S. Morgan, secretary of the National Reform Press Association, was present and addressed the members concerning the proposed excursion to Washington on February 22, 1893, after which a recess was taken until 2 o'clock.

At the opening of the afternoon session the committee on membership reported favorably on the following applications: J. E. Latimer, Pleasanton Herald; W. C. Adkins, Effingham Graphic; J. S. Parks, Western Call; J. M. Hagaman, Concordia Blade; G. E. Hathaway, Washington Republican; A. C. McCarthy, Paola Times; George Rogers, People's Herald; J. C. Buchanan, Pittsburg Kansas.

Later in the day the following applications were favorably reported on: J. B. Dyatt, Almena Plaindealer; C. E. Foote, Marion Times. On motion all of the foregoing applicants were admitted to membership.

The committee on resolutions submitted the following report:

We rejoice over the result of the late election and the progress of our principles as expressed by the people of Kansas at the polls, and we congratulate our members on the important part they have taken in the contest.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this association that our executive board be instructed to take steps looking to the extension of aid to the publishers of reform papers in localities where such publications have been found unprofitable, in securing better locations. To this end they may establish a bureau of information to which those wanting papers established in their localities, and those desiring local names may apply and be put in communication with each other.

Resolved, That we ask the repeal of the law requiring legal notices to be published only in papers that have been published for at least fifty-two consecutive weeks.

The following resolution submitted by W. H. T. Wakefield was adopted:

Whereas, It is notoriously true that the state canvassing board, with intent to subvert the will of the people as expressed at the polls in the recent election, has issued certificates of election to candidates for the lower house who were not legally entitled to them; and

Whereas, The state central committee of the People's party through its chairman, John W. B. B. and his legal advisors, has determined upon the undoing of this wrong so far as it can be attained by legal methods, and is collecting evidence and pushing investigations with this purpose in view; therefore be it

Resolved, That this association tender to this committee its earnest support in this good work to the end that control of the lower house be secured, and in order that righteous legislation in the interest of humanity may be enacted at the ensuing session.

The following, offered by J. C. Buchanan, was also adopted:

Resolved, That we commend to the legislature the submission of amendments to the constitution embodying—

(1) The legislative system known as the initiative and referendum.

(2) Proportional and preferential representation.

W. H. French, of the Kinsley Graphic, who had been designated to read a paper upon the subject, "The Fight We Have Just Passed Through," stated that he had not prepared a paper but would submit a few remarks upon the subject. His address embodied many practical suggestions and was listened to with deep interest by all present. One thought he presented in an especially forcible manner, and that was "that we have arrived at a point in our progress where it is

highly important that we maintain absolute freedom from entangling alliances with all other parties. If we are to achieve any success as a party we must be, and remain, a distinctive and absolutely independent political organization. His argument was logical and was clearly and forcibly presented.

J. P. Easterly, of the People's Advocate, of Marysville, read a paper of especial merit, which appears in full in another column.

At the close of the afternoon session a motion prevailed to devote one hour of the evening session to a general discussion, during which time any member should have the privilege of presenting, in an informal manner, any subject he might desire in a speech to be limited in time to five minutes, and in the further discussion of the subjects other speakers should be limited to three minutes.

On assembling for the evening session this program was carried out, after which W. S. Morgan presented the subject of ready prints and plate matter, submitting a plan he had prepared as a committee of the national association by which to supply reform papers with the quality and quantity of matter of this kind which they desire. A vote being taken to test the sense of those present as to their desire to try the plan showed a good number in favor of it and but one against it.

Governor-elect Lewelling, who had been expected to be present and address the association, sent the following letter to the president:

WICHITA, KAN., December 16, 1892.
W. L. Brown, Topeka, Kas. (care Dutton House).
MY DEAR SIR—I fear I am too late in replying to your very kind invitation to attend the meeting of your press association. I regret exceedingly that the various duties prevent my attendance.

The continued success and prosperity of the People's party depends largely upon the editors of the state. It is their duty to mold public sentiment and keep constantly before the people the great need of a change in the public policy which has been pursued by the republican party of this state for many years. I regret that the remuneration for such services as our newspapers have rendered in this struggle is entirely inadequate, but I believe that our editors are inspired by a more lofty purpose than a mere financial consideration.

I trust great pleasure and profit may result from this present meeting. Please convey my high regards to the various members of your association, and believe me to be Your sincere friend,

L. D. LEWELLING.

The following officers of the association were elected for the ensuing year: President, A. A. Stewart; vice president, W. H. French; secretary-treasurer, S. McLallin; executive committee, W. H. T. Wakefield, B. E. Kies, C. S. Davis.

That article of the constitution requiring the annual meeting to be held at the same time and place as the State Alliance was stricken out.

The next meeting of the association was appointed at Kingman, six months from the date of this meeting.

A vote of thanks was tendered to Everybody's Club of Topeka for the use of their hall for the session.

On motion the session adjourned.

FOR SALE.

The best bred Jersey bull calf in Kansas. Sire, St. Lambert of Cranwood, No. 22033; dam, Daisy Forest, No. 39819, A. J. C. C. This calf is six months old and very fine and strong. His breeding combines the blood of Fogs Victor Hugo, Stoke Fogs 3d, St. Heller, champion of America, Excelior of Jersey; and Mary Ann, of St. Lamberts, Croton Maid, Silventa, Alpha and Grace Darling. Representing more breeding of cows making over twenty pounds of butter in seven days than all other Jersey blood combined. Will take the highest price offered by noon, January 12, 1893.

Z. R. ASHBROUGH,
514 west 10th street, Topeka, Kas.